

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Mr. George Hartenstein, Director Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Mr. Kenneth R. Reisinger, Acting Deputy Secretary Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Rachel Carson State Office Building 400 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-8471

Dear Mr. Hartenstein and Mr. Reisinger:

As part of the Underground Storage Tank (UST), Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST), and Hazardous Waste program Cooperative Agreements between the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), State program staff are required to keep informed and up-to-date about the latest EPA program guidance and policies. The Region 3 RCRA Inspector Workshop, LUST Technical Workshop, RCRA Corrective Action Workshop, UST All-States Meeting, and National Tanks Conference provide ideal opportunities for State counterparts to gather, network, and exchange information with each other and with EPA on topics of mutual interest.

Because State attendance at many of these meetings and workshops is a grant requirement, EPA expects that a suitable number of PADEP staff will attend. EPA understands that States face difficulties funding expenses for staff to attend EPA-sponsored trainings and workshops. However, given that non-travel costs associated with State attendance at the RCRA Inspector Workshop, the LUST Technical Workshop, and the RCRA Corrective Action Workshop are incorporated into the Hazardous Waste, LUST Prevention, and LUST Corrective Action Cooperative Agreements through in-kind services, and that travel is a line item in all three Cooperative Agreements, no additional State funds beyond the statutory match are required for these meetings. Additionally, it is beneficial for your staff and managers to attend the All-States Meeting and the National Tanks Conference as they allow for open communication with other State agencies about common issues and best practices in the UST and LUST programs.

At this time, the following EPA meetings/workshops are scheduled in 2015:

- Region 3 All-States Meeting: May 18 19, 2015 in Richmond, Virginia
- National Tanks Conference: September 14 16, 2015 in Phoenix, Arizona
- LUST Technical Workshop: Fall 2015 (tentative)
- Region 3 RCRA Inspector Workshop: November 2015 (location TBD)

EPA appreciates PADEP's continued commitment to implementing the UST, LUST, and Hazardous Waste programs in Pennsylvania, and is committed to working with you to help lessen the financial burden inherent in carrying out mandatory grant and program requirements. If you have any questions please contact Rick Rogers, Associate Director for the Office of State Programs, at 215-814-5711 or rogers.rick@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

John A. Armstead, Director Land & Chemicals Division

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